

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society records

PHS.records

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Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

2010.12.09

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Summary Information

Repository	Pennsylvania Horticultural Society
Creator	Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.
Title	Pennsylvania Horticultural Society records
Call number	PHS.records
Date [inclusive]	1791-2006
Extent	22 linear feet
Language	English
Abstract	<p>The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) was founded on November 24, 1827 by fifty-three prominent Philadelphians; among them Horace Binney, David Landreth Jr., William Davidson, George Pepper, Nicolas Biddle and Moses Brown. Emulating similar societies existing in England at the time, the men formed their Society to promote “a highly instructive and interesting science for the purpose of improving the growth of vegetables, plants, trees, fruits and flowers.” Since that time, the Society and its membership has fostered “...an appreciation of plants, acquiring scientific knowledge about them, disseminating horticultural information, and involving the public in gardening and beautifying the City of Philadelphia.” More recently, the Society has worked specifically to beautify the city and help realize William Penn’s founding vision for Philadelphia to be a “greene countrie towne.” This is a collection of administrative records from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The collection contains minutes, correspondence, photographs, reports, slides, pamphlets, financial records, publications, scrapbooks, awards, printing blocks, and medals. The records date from 1791 to 2006 and cover topics such as community-based programs and events, including Philadelphia</p>

Green and 10,000 Trees. The records include individuals such as Pennsylvania Horticultural Society President Ernesta D. Ballard and PHS events such as the Philadelphia Flower Show and the Chrysanthemum Show.

Cite as:

[Description and date of item], [Box and folder number], Pennsylvania Horticultural Society records, 1791-2006, Pennsylvania Horticultural Society McLean Library.

Biography/History

The Pennsylvania Horticultural Society (PHS) was founded on November 24, 1827 by fifty-three prominent Philadelphians; among them, Horace Binney, David Landreth Jr., William Davidson, George Pepper, Nicolas Biddle and Moses Brown. Emulating similar societies existing in England at the time, the men formed their Society to promote “a highly instructive and interesting science for the purpose of improving the growth of vegetables, plants, trees, fruits and flowers.” Since that time, the Society and its membership has fostered “...an appreciation of plants, acquiring scientific knowledge about them, disseminating horticultural information, and involving the public in gardening and beautifying the City of Philadelphia” (Ball, *A Celebrated History...*, p. 9). In fact, more recently, the Society has worked specifically to beautify the city and help realize William Penn’s founding vision for Philadelphia to be a “greene countrie towne.”

In the beginning, PHS membership (which did not include women until 1835) actively participated in the effort to promote horticulture in a few ways. At meetings, they displayed new technologies, exchanged seeds, propagated new plants, corresponded with European horticultural groups, and hosted wine tastings. In November 1828, PHS held its first flower show. The following year, at the Masonic Hall, it hosted the first ever public flower show in America at which the poinsettia was introduced in the United States. In 1836, PHS introduced sugar beet seeds to the United States. The Society hosted annual Harvest Shows beginning in 1832 and intermittent Spring Shows until 1871, at which point they were made an annual part of PHS programming.

Throughout its history, membership and membership dues played a vital role in the Society’s finances and activities. Overall, PHS witnessed a steady increase in membership over time (from fifty-three members at its founding to 17,000 members in 2010); however, there were periods of significant decline, especially during wartime, that severely weakened the PHS’s finances. It was during these periods that PHS found new ways to expand its programming, ultimately growing its membership. For example, the Pennsylvania

Horticultural Society established, around the time of the Civil War, a Woman's Committee to campaign for new members. Shortly thereafter, PHS instituted a formal lecture series. In the late 1910s and 1920s, Society President James Boyd reached out to amateur gardeners and created an alliance with the Flower Show of the Main Line. A library and reading room was also established. The Philadelphia Horticultural Society officially established the Philadelphia Flower Show together with the Florists' Club in 1923. Since its establishment, the annual Philadelphia Flower Show has grown to be the largest indoor flower show in the world. Other activities established in the 1920s included competitive flower shows, trips and member garden tours. Membership benefits at that time also included a subscription to the magazine *Horticulture*.

The mid to late twentieth century was equally productive. True to its mission to preserve Philadelphia as a "greene countrie towne," PHS activities focused on planting gardens throughout the city and involving the community at large. In 1953, PHS planted the azalea garden in Fairmount Park and presented it to the city. In 1974, PHS established the "Community Vegetable Garden Program," encouraging people to make productive use of vacant lots in their neighborhoods. This program eventually evolved into the nationally regarded "Philadelphia Green," which focused more generally on neighborhood beautification, including vacant lot clean up, planting vegetable and flower gardens, and sidewalk trees, as well as the provision of items such as public garbage receptacles.

PHS has benefitted from at least five strong and productive leaders. The first, William Shaffer, was president from 1867 to 1884 and brought the Society back from near financial ruin due to a drop in membership, among other things. He gave generously, restored the annual Spring and Harvest Shows, formed the Women's Committee, and revived a program of monthly exhibits. James Boyd was president from 1919 to 1929, and established the Philadelphia Flower Show, re-wrote the Society's bylaws to change PHS from a professional to an amateur organization, and restructured the budget to generate more income. Frederick C. Stout, who from 1929 to 1950 led the Society with the help of Secretary John C. Wister, built up membership, organized the program "Garden Days," involved PHS in the newly formed Pennsylvania Federation of Garden Clubs, and increased annual income to \$36,000. Ernesta Ballard, who started her work for the Society as a volunteer, became the first paid president of PHS in 1973. She instituted the Philadelphia Flower Show Preview Dinner, which benefitted the Community Vegetable Garden Program. Jane Pepper assumed presidency in 1981. During her tenure, the Philadelphia Flower Show became the largest indoor flower show in the world, the library's holdings grew, and by 1993, the "Greene Countrie Towne" initiative was underway.

The Horticultural Society has occupied several homes since its 1827 founding. It held its first meetings at the Franklin Institute, the American Philosophical Society, the Athenaeum and a few other locations throughout the city. In 1867, it built Horticultural Hall at Broad and Lardner Streets. In 1917, due to poor finances, PHS sold the building and moved to an office in the Finance Building on South Penn Square. From 1923 to 1946, PHS was housed in offices in the new Insurance Company of North America Building at 1600 Arch Street. From 1946 to 1964, it occupied office space above Suburban Station. In 1964, PHS joined with the Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture in order to move into a historical row house in the Society Hill neighborhood, which was being included in the Independence National Historical Park. As of 2010, PHS resides at 100 N. 20th Street.

Bibliography:

Ball, Liz. "A Celebrated History: 175 Years of Philadelphia Horticultural Society." *Green Scene*, December 2002, pp. 8-14.

Ball, Liz. "Growing Bigger and Better by Year." *Pennsylvania Heritage*, Spring 2001.

Peeples, Edwin A. "Summary for a Sesqui." Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. Philadelphia: 1977.

Scope and Contents

This is a collection of administrative records from the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The collection contains minutes, correspondence, photographs, reports, slides, pamphlets, financial records, publications, scrapbooks, awards, printing blocks and medals. The records date from 1791 to 2006 and cover topics such as community-based horticultural programs and events, including Philadelphia Green and 10,000 Trees. The records document individuals such as Pennsylvania Horticultural Society President Ernesta D. Ballard and Pennsylvania Horticultural events such as the Philadelphia Flower Show and the Chrysanthemum Show. The collection is divided into ten series: "Governance," "Administration," "Education," "Shows and Exhibits," "Regional Greening Projects," "Awards," "Publications and Printed Materials," "Other Collections," "History of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society," and "Special Formats."

The first series, "Governance," dates from 1791 to 1992 and is arranged in chronological order. The series contains a list of Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Council members from 1935, bylaws, constitutions, articles of incorporation and publications of bylaws with a library catalogs. Of interest in this series is the list of Pennsylvania Horticultural Society Council members from 1935, which contains a list of the members as well as notations on the members. Entries include information about the awards members received, their positions, when they died and plants they specialized in.

The second series, "Administration," is composed of nine sections, including "Office of the President," "Presidents," "Committees," "Financial Records," "Buildings and gardens," "Membership," "Public relations and marketing," "Public relations and marketing scrapbook" and "Human resources." The records are arranged under the headings in the order listed, then chronologically. The records date from 1827 to 2006. The records consist of scrapbooks, minutes, correspondence, reports, membership cards, budgets, taxes and blueprints.

The "Presidents" section of the "Administration" series includes numerous records from Ernesta D. Ballard, the most well documented president in the collection. Folders that include information about Ballard not in the "Presidents" section of "Administration include the committee records for the "Number One Event," which was a dinner organized to honor her, and records relating to the 150th Anniversary of PHS. The "Buildings and gardens" records document the many buildings that the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society resided in and some of the Society's many works on various local gardens. Described in detail in the "Buildings and gardens" records are the creation and maintenance of the Azalea

Garden, the 18th Century Garden and PHS's move to the location in Independence National Historical Park in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania.

Also of interest in the series "Administration" are the "Public relations and marketing scrapbooks." The public relations and marketing scrapbooks consist of numerous materials related to the history of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society documented through photographs, newspaper clippings, records of radio and television publicity and various ephemera. The public relations and marketing scrapbooks include scrapbooks related to flower shows, Philadelphia Green, the 18th Century Garden and the Victory Garden Harvest Show. The flower show discussed most extensively is the Philadelphia Flower Show, but there is a scrapbook for the Victory Garden Harvest Show of 1942, which was a show that benefited Army and Navy relief. The scrapbook contains newspaper clippings, notes on radio publicity and photographs. The photographs contain numerous pictures of Philadelphia model Loretta Hannings, who was named Miss Victory Gardens' "Theme Girl." The 18th Century Garden scrapbooks contain a tremendous amount of information regarding the project, which was the creation and maintenance of an 18th Century-style garden outside of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society when it was located at Independence Historical National Park. The 18th Century Garden was meant to be in the horticultural style of Colonial America. The garden's plants were changed throughout the seasons and different exhibits appeared for each season. The 18th Century Garden is well documented in the scrapbooks, which are arranged chronologically, and documents include items such as garden plans, photographs, receipts, volunteer lists, public relations material, notes and newsletters. The Philadelphia Green scrapbooks contain information on a variety of the public programs performed by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. Philadelphia Green was a program created by PHS to aid Philadelphians in adding horticultural elements to their neighborhoods. This was done through lectures, workshops, or physically aiding the neighborhood in adding the plants. Philadelphia Green included programs such as the Vegetable Garden Program, the Street Tree Program, the Sitting Garden Program, and the Neighborhood Garden Block Program. Many of these programs required neighborhood involvement and participation. The scrapbooks for the Eighteenth Century Garden contain evidence of these communities and their participation through thank-you cards directed to PHS for their help, photographs and documents of project outcomes including newspaper clippings.

The third series, "Education" dates from 1915 to 1976 and is arranged chronologically into three parts, "Educational programs," "Lectures and workshops" and "Library." These records document PHS efforts to create an educational film called "Room to Grow" to distribute to the Philadelphia School District. The film promoted students' ventures into the plant sciences. The records also document PHS's garden camps, which were workshops that promoted horticulture to children and young adults. The "Library" records mostly document the exhibit "From Seed to Flower," which was an exhibit featuring numerous rare books that PHS displayed as part of Philadelphia's celebration of the Bicentennial in 1976.

The fourth series, "Shows and Exhibitions," contains a variety of material from PHS's early flower shows to the later, more elaborate shows. The records are arranged alphabetically by flower show or exhibition title. Within each alphabetized grouping, the records are further arranged chronologically. Records mostly include schedules, passes, flyers, catalog, pamphlets, press releases and photographs. The series mostly documents the Philadelphia Flower Show, but there are also numerous records documenting other shows including the Annual Exhibition, the Christmas Carnival and Winter Flower Show, the Chrysanthemum Show, the Iris Show and the Lily Show. Of special interest in this series are the Philaflora materials. Philaflora was a proposed six month long flower show and a permanent horticulture center to be created

as part of Philadelphia's celebration of the 1976 Bicentennial. The program's research is all present and well documented through correspondence, reports, notes, drawings, plans, budgets and proposals. However, despite a tremendous amount of resources and planning given towards Philaflora, the program eventually folded without ever being fully implemented due to issues such as conflicting political involvement and inconsistent financial commitments. Of particular use for those interested in Philadelphia and economics are the reports of the potential economic impact of Philaflora on Philadelphia and the economic impact of the Philadelphia Flower Show on Philadelphia.

The fifth series "Regional Greening Projects" is arranged alphabetically; within each alphabetized grouping, the records are arranged chronologically. The "Regional Greening Projects" series is reserved for various materials relating to PHS's work in several horticultural areas throughout Philadelphia. The projects include small local gardens, like those planted in Philadelphia Green, to massive planting projects, such as the 10,000 Trees Program, which was a program with a mission to plant 10,000 trees throughout the Philadelphia area for Philadelphia's Bicentennial. Heavily documented greening projects include the Governor's Mansion Garden project, 150th Anniversary, and 10,000 Trees. Of interest is the 150th Anniversary Committee, which was a committee established to put into action and create funds for a variety of competing horticulture projects from numerous organizations and people throughout the Philadelphia area. The records contain photographs, correspondence, proposals, reports and brochures, which all document various organizations' proposed projects to PHS and outcomes of the projects.

The sixth series, "Awards," contains various photographs of awards given by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, descriptions and summaries of awards, correspondence involving awards, minutes regarding awards, photographs of gardens that received awards, and medals given to and by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The series dates from 1926 to 1994 and is arranged in chronological order within three different sections, "Awards given by PHS documents," "PHS medals," and "Medals." The selection of records titled "Awards given by PHS documents" consists of photographs, historical notes, correspondence, and minutes regarding the various PHS medals. The section "PHS Medals" contains various awards given to individuals and nurseries by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society for excellence in various horticultural endeavors, including accomplishments in cultivating certain varieties of plants as well as community involvement. The section "Medals" contains a variety of medals given to PHS from other societies, including the Garden Club of America. Of particular note in the series are the gardens in the Philadelphia region that received the Garden Award medal given by Pennsylvania Horticultural Society from 1930 to 1943. These gardens are photographed and annotations to tell the viewer where the home is located and what award, gold, silver, or bronze, the garden received. Also of interest are the correspondence and minutes of Pennsylvania Horticultural Society that discussed award recipients. These records show the effort and thought put into choosing the recipients of medals; there also are numerous correspondence and notes documenting the historic importance of the medals.

The seventh series, "Publications and Printed Materials," contains programs, pamphlets, information about *Horticulture* magazine, copyright information, correspondence, the *Philadelphia Green Pages* and information relating to that publication, newspaper clippings, and other outside publications. The series dates from 1862 to 1981 and is arranged in chronological order. The *Philadelphia Green Pages* was an alphabetical handbook of information and resources for gardening including topics such as recommended books, composting, horticultural organizations, and poisonous plants written and published by PHS. Also of interest is the PHS quarterly publication, the *Pennsylvania Gardens*, which contains a variety of horticultural articles written by notable PHS figures such as John Wister and Anne Werstner Wood.

The eighth series, "Other Collections," dates from 1928 to 1974 and contains a variety of materials not published or created by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The records are arranged in chronological order. Organizations included in this series are the American Horticultural Council and the National Council of State and Garden Clubs. Materials include reports, minutes, pamphlets, and brochures from the various organizations. There is correspondence, mostly to Ernesta D. Ballard, in many of the folders.

The ninth series, "History of PHS," contains four different sections: "Photographs," "Meadowbrook Farm," "Staff," and "Unpublished history of PHS." The records are arranged in the order listed and then further arranged chronologically within each heading. Photographs include various photographs used in exhibitions that feature a variety of PHS historical figures and buildings. The "Meadowbrook Farm" section discusses Meadowbrook Farm, which was part of the estate bequeathed to PHS in 2003 by J. Liddon Pennock, Jr., an original founder of Philadelphia Flower Show, Incorporated. Meadowbrook Farm contains the estate home, plant farm, greenhouse and garden nursery affiliated with PHS and traditionally has provided many plants to display at the Philadelphia Flower Show.

The tenth series, "Special Formats," contains copper printing blocks, photographs, art and artifacts. The records are arranged chronologically. The photographs in this collection are of interest because their content differs from the normal photographs housed by the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society. The photographs depict a variety of 1930s Philadelphia gardens, including public gardens, private business gardens, nonprofit gardens, and private home gardens. The gardens reflect the style and cityscape of the 1930s.

This collection would be especially useful for studies of horticultural societies, local history and environmental and social issues.

Administrative Information

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

2010.12.09

Finding aid prepared by Megan Atkinson and Christiana Dobrzynski Grippe.

Sponsor

The processing of this collection was made possible through generous funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, administered through the Council on Library and Information Resources' "Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives" Project.

Access Restrictions

This collection is open for research use.

Use Restrictions

Copyright restrictions may apply. Please contact the Archives with requests for copying and for authorization to publish, quote or reproduce the material.

Processing Information note

The processing of this collection was made possible through generous funding from The Andrew W. Mellon Foundation, administered through the Council on Library and Information Resources' "Cataloging Hidden Special Collections and Archives" Project.

This collection was *minimally processed* in 2009-2011, as part of an experimental project conducted under the auspices of the Philadelphia Area Consortium of Special Collections Libraries to help eliminate processing backlog in Philadelphia repositories. A minimally processed collection is one processed at a less intensive rate than traditionally thought necessary to make a collection ready for use by researchers. When citing sources from this collection, researchers are advised to defer to folder titles provided in the finding aid rather than those provided on the physical folder.

Employing processing strategies outlined in Mark Greene's and Dennis Meissner's 2005 article, *More Product, Less Process: Revamping Traditional Processing Approaches to Deal With Late 20th-Century Collections*, the project team tested the limits of minimal processing on collections of all types and ages, in 23 Philadelphia area repositories. A primary goal of the project, the team processed at an average rate of 2-3 hours per linear foot of records, a fraction of the time ordinarily reserved for the arrangement and description of collections. Among other time saving strategies, the project team did not extensively review the content of the collections, replace acidic folders or complete any preservation work.

Related Materials

Related Archival Materials note

Pennsylvania Horticultural Society: Pennsylvania Horticultural Society minute books, 1827-2001; Philadelphia Flower Show photographs and slides collection, 1928-2009; and Philadelphia Flower Show minutes and financial records, 1927-1996, 2004.

Controlled Access Headings

Corporate Name(s)

- Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.
- Philadelphia Flower Show.
- Philadelphia Green (Program).

Form/Genre(s)

- Correspondence
- Bylaws
- Minutes
- Charters
- Photographs
- Ephemera
- Financial records
- Scrapbooks
- Reports
- Awards

Geographic Name(s)

- Philadelphia (Pa.)

Personal Name(s)

- Ballard, Ernesta Drinker
- Wister, John C., (John Caspar), 1887-1982

Subject(s)

- Horticulture
- Gardening
- Flower shows
- Urban beautification
- American Revolution Bicentennial, 1976
- Public relations

Collection Inventory

Governance.

Council: "Who's Who" list of Council members, 1935.

Bylaws: Constitution of the Horticultural Society of Philadelphia, 1791, 1811.

Bylaws: Constitutional bylaws and summaries, 1827-1950, 1987.

Bylaws: "Bylaws and library catalogue" (1 of 2), 1844.

Bylaws: "Bylaws and library catalogue" (2 of 2), 1844.

Bylaws: "Act of incorporation and by-laws", 1861.

Bylaws: Supplements to charter, 1865, 1866, 1868, 1871, 1872, 1873.

Bylaws: "Act of incorporation and by-laws", 1885.

Bylaws: "Charter and by-laws", 1896.

Bylaws: "Charter and by-laws", 1919.

Bylaws: Constitution and bylaws, 1946-1992.

Bylaws: "Amended and restated articles of incorporation", 1988.

Administration

Administration.

Office of the President: Correspondence between C. Frederick C. Stout and various other horticultural societies concerning the lily society, 1935-1936.

Office of the President: Secretary John C. Wister, 1943-1955.

Office of the President: Secretary pension plan, 1947-1952.

Office of the President: Correspondence with various historical societies, 1947-1969.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding K. B. Semple, 1952-1959.

Office of the President: "Mrs. Allinson, Secretary", 1954-1959.

Office of the President: Philadelphia Society for Promoting Agriculture, 1955-1996.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the Tyler Arboretum, 1961-1964.

Office of the President: Annual Meeting reports, 1963.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the National Carl Shurz Association, Incorporated, 1963-1965.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the American Rock Garden Society, 1964-1966.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the American Rhododendron Society, 1964-1971.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the White House Conference on Natural Beauty, 1965-1966.

Administration

Office of the President: Correspondence, notes and reports relating to Flower Show Management Conference, 1967-1969.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the United States Department of Commerce, 1967-1968.

Office of the President: Public relations and marketing correspondence, 1968-1980.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the North American Lily Society and Lily Show, 1968, 1980.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the Delaware Valley Horticultural Council, 1970-1973.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the Philadelphia Rose Society, 1970-1973.

Office of the President: Correspondence regarding Governor's conference on the environment, 1970-1976.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the United States Department of Agriculture, 1971-1973.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the American Daffodil Society, 1972, 1977.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the Pennsylvania Bonsai Society, 1973.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the American Gloxinia and Gesneriad Society, 1973.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the Indoor Light Gardening Society, 1973-1976.

Office of the President: Correspondence with and regarding the Greater Philadelphia Dahlia Society, 1977.

Presidents: John B. Carson correspondence, 1951-1953.

Administration

Presidents: J. Liddon Pennock, Jr., 1954.

Presidents: J. Liddon Pennock, Jr., 1955-1956.

Presidents: George R. Clark, 1957.

Presidents: George R. Clark, 1958.

Presidents: George R. Clark, 1959-1960.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard outreach and special projects, 1959-1980.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard outreach and special projects, 1959-1980.

Presidents: Henry D. Mirick, 1960.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence, 1960-1970.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard general correspondence, 1960-1970.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence, 1962-1966.

Presidents: Carlton B. Lees, 1963.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard personal correspondence, 1963-1965.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence regarding pesticides, 1963-1979.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence containing feedback about Flower Show and PHS, 1964-1980.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence concerning miscellaneous legislative action, 1966-1978.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence regarding the American Society of Landscape Architects, 1967-1972.

Administration

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence with Kenneth Lynch concerning rooster topiary, 1967-1973.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence, memoranda, notes and reports concerning the Long Range Planning Committee, 1968-1973.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence, notes, and legal documents concerning memorial funds, endowments and bequests, 1968-1978.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence regarding educational programs, 1968-1979.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence, notes and reports concerning PHS's relationship with University of Pennsylvania and Morris Arboretum, 1969-1975.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard annual report of the director, 1970-1971.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence regarding American Horticultural Society and Directory of American Horticulture, 1970-1973.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence, notes and programs regarding the film "Room to Grow, 1970-1974.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard general correspondence, 1970-1980.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard annual meeting materials, 1971-1980.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard slides, correspondence and brochures relating to European International Flower Show, 1972-1974.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard publications, 1973, 1980.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence concerning curriculum guide for "Indoor Gardening in the Classroom", 1973-1976.

Administration

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence regarding A. G. Rosengarten's bequest of his estate Chanticleer to Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, 1975-1976.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence, 1976-1980.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence concerning 150th anniversary pin, 1977.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard program and script for 150th anniversary production "Flourish", 1977.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence, notes and pamphlets related to "Summary for a Sesqui", 1977.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard publicity materials for 150th anniversary celebration, 1977.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence and literature, some regarding 150th Anniversary, 1977-1978.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence, 1978-1997.

Presidents: Ernesta D. Ballard correspondence from local garden societies to Mayor Green about 1981 Spring Flower Show set-up date, 1980.

Committees: Capital Improvement Committee correspondence, reports and estimates, 1990-1991.

Committees: Capital Improvement Committee correspondence, bid proposal and final report of asbestos abatement project, 1992.

Committees: Capital Improvement Committee correspondence, reports, invoices and financial records, 1992.

Committees: Capital Improvement Committee reports, correspondence, meeting memoranda and project estimates, 1992-1993.

Committees: Capital Improvement Committee feasibility study for 311-325 Walnut Street, 1993.

Administration

Committees: Duties and purposes, 1956-1957.

Committees: Editorial Committee, 1954-1966.

Committees: Executive Committee with Carroll R. Wetzel, 1956-1959.

Committees: Executive Committee records, 1968-1979.

Committees: Executive Committee and George R. Clark, 1960-1962.

Committees: Executive Committee, 1960-1966.

Committees: Garden Clinics Committee with Chairman Mrs. P. C. Rebmann, 1960.

Committees: Garden Clinics Committee, 1962-1963.

Committees: Garden Clinics Committee, 1964-1965.

Committees: Garden Visits Committee "prior years", 1961-1966.

Committees: Honorary Advisory Committee, 1957-1959.

Committees: Horticultural Committee reports, 1958-1963.

Committees: Advisory Committee correspondence concerning Independence National Historical Park, 1954-1958.

Committees: Advisory Committee correspondence concerning Independence National Historical Park, 1960-1962.

Committees: Lecture Committee, 1962-1963.

Committees: Long Range Planning Committee Boris Sokoloff questionnaire and final report, 1978.

Committees: Long Range Planning Committee correspondence, notes and reports, 1978.

Administration

Committees: Long Range Planning Committee and subcommittee reports, 1979.

Committees: Long Range Planning Committee and subcommittee reports, 1984.

Committees: Long Range Planning Committee "Looking to the Year 2000 - Strategic Objectives for the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society", 1992.

Committees: Long Range Planning Committee "Creating a Mission for the New Century", 1999.

Committees: Long Range Planning Committee strategic plan for 2006-2011, 2006.

Committees: Mayor's Gateway Committee correspondence and related notes, 1972-1974.

Committees: Various minutes, agendas and treasury reports, 1960-1963.

Committees: New Activities Committee, 1958.

Committees: Nominating Committee, 1960-1965.

Committees: Search Committee individuals' records, 1968.

Committees: Search Committee individuals' records for Director search, 1979.

Committees: Search Committee for Director search, 1970-1980.

Committees: Search Committee individuals' records for Director search, 1979-1980.

Committees: Search Committee records of applicants not interviewed, 1979-1980.

Committees: Search Committee records of individuals participating in Director search, 1979-1980.

Committees: Search Committee records of individuals participating in Director search, 1979-1980.

Committees: Search Committee records, 1979-1980.

Administration

Committees: Search Committee records, 1979-1980.

Committees: Search Committee Director search, circa 1979.

Committees: Search Committee individuals' records, 1980.

Committees: Copy of the "report of the committee appointed by the Horticultural Society of Pennsylvania for visiting the nurseries and gardens in the vicinity of Philadelphia" from June 13, 1830, undated.

Committees: Number One Event Committee records regarding organization of dinner honoring Ernesta D. Ballard, 1980-1981.

Committees: 125th Anniversary Committee correspondence, notes, meeting minutes, newspaper clippings and press releases, 1951-1952.

Committees: 125th Anniversary Committee photocopies of meeting minutes and correspondence discussing creation of Azalea Garden, 1952-1954.

Committees: 125th Anniversary Committee notes and correspondence discussing creation of Azalea Garden, 1951-1953.

Financial records: Stocks, accounting and leases, 1867-1957.

Financial records: Elizabeth Schaffer Trust, 1887. 1909, 1912, 1983.

Financial records: Financial statement, 1924-1930.

Financial records: Budget information, 1930, 1950.

Financial records: Financial statement, 1931-1935.

Financial records: Tax material for Mr. Lees, April 4, 1962, 1934-1952.

Financial records: Finance Committee minutes-representative selection, 1935-1955.

Administration

Financial records: Financial statements, 1936-1940.

Financial records: Girard Trust Company correspondence, 1942-1947.

Financial records: Accounts and membership records, 1949-1960.

Financial records: William L. McLean, Jr., 1950-1952.

Financial records: Correspondence, 1952-1968.

Financial records: Budget, 1952-1979.

Financial records: Appraisal and insurance policy, 1953,1956, 1964.

Financial records: Mr. Clark treasurer correspondence, 1954-1956.

Financial records: Gifts, 1956-1966.

Financial records: Dr. J. Franklin Styer, treasurer, 1957-1959.

Financial records: Treasurer, 1961-1963.

Financial records: Treasurer's reports, 1962-1963.

Financial records: Treasurer's reports, 1963-1964.

Financial records: Major antique purchases and gifts, 1966.

Financial records: Fund drive-pledges received, 1963.

Financial records: Financial statements, 1954-1959.

Financial records: Financial statements, 1960-1962.

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Medals: Garden Club of New Jersey, to PHS Philadelphia Flower Show, 1956.

Medals: Garden Club of America, Philadelphia Flower and Garden Show Horticultural Classes Section, 1971.

Medal: Chicago World Flower and Garden Show Award, "class 191 Philadelphia Flower and Garden Show", 1974.

Medals: Garden Club of America, PHS "Horticourt", 1974.

Medal: Distinguished Achievement to Emily Read Cheston, 1977.

Medals: "Replica of medallion on container carrying the first tree seeds to outer space by former Forest Service Smokejumper Major Stuart Roosa on Apollo XIV Mission", undated.

Medals: Michell Medal for achievement in horticulture awarded to James Boyd by Henry F. Michell Company Seeds Philadelphia, undated.

PHS Medals: Awarded to James Boyd for peonies best five varieties, 1915 June 2.

PHS Medals: Awarded to James Boyd for a collection of peonies, new varieties, 1917.

Publications and Printed Materials

PHS Medals: Awarded to Gardeners of Montgomery and Delaware Counties for a collection of hardy chrysanthemums, 1921 November 7.

PHS Medals: Awarded to the gardeners of Delaware and Montgomery Counties for miniature garden, 1922 November 7.

PHS Medals: Awarded to James Boyd for iris germanica, twenty-five varieties, 1924 June 6.

PHS Medals: William L. Schaffer Memorial Medal awarded to James Boyd for earnest effort and success in advancing the interest in horticulture, 1924.

PHS Medals: "Awarded to Movilla Gardens for best collection of double peonies rating three to five or over", 1925 June 5.

PHS Medals: Awarded to Miss T. Williams Roberts for luncheon table decoration, 1925 June 5.

PHS Medals: Horace Binney First President Award to James Boyd "presented at the dinner of the one hundredth anniversary", 1927 .

PHS Medals: Robert C. Wright Rose Medal for "the best individual rose exhibited by an amateur" awarded to James Boyd, 1929 June 12.

PHS Medals: Horace Binney First President Award, blank, 2002.

PHS Medals: William L. Schaffer Memorial Medal, undated.

Publications and Printed Materials.

"Programme for the year 1862", 1862.

"Programme for the year 1876", 1876.

Other Collections

Fiftieth anniversary pamphlet, 1877.

Photocopy of pamphlet commemorating fiftieth anniversary of PHS, 1877.

Election ticket, 1884.

"Programme for the year 1886", 1886.

"Pennsylvania Gardens", 1937.

"Horticulture" magazine covers and related correspondence from Ernesta D. Ballard, 1963-1964.

"Philadelphia Area Green Pages," related correspondence, notes and newspaper clippings, 1972-1973.

Copyright information, correspondence and applications for several PHS publications, 1973-1981.

"Philadelphia Area Green Pages" and advertisements, 1975.

Outside publication "Penn's Woodland...", undated.

Other Collections.

American Horticultural Society, 1928-1947, [1936-1947].

American Horticultural Society, 1950-1955.

American Horticultural Society, 1956-1959.

American Horticultural Society, 1964-1968.

American Horticultural Society affiliated organizations, 1965-1966.

American Horticultural Society Long Range Planning Committee, Ernesta D. Ballard file, 1966.

History of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society

American Horticultural Society, 1966.

National Council of State Gardens Club, 1963-1966, 1970-1974.

History of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society.

Photographs of members of the building committee of the new Horticultural Hall, 1895.

Photographs and engravings of former headquarters and buildings, undated.

Photographs and photographs of portraits of officers and Executive council from 1929 to 1951, undated.

Photographs and photographs of portraits of officers from 1858 to 1923, undated.

Photographs and photographs of portraits of Presidents from 1827 to 1898, undated.

Photographs and photographs of portraits of Presidents from 1899 to 1929, undated.

Photographs of 1839 minutes relating to the library taken for an exhibition, undated.

Photographs of Bartram's Gardens and a photograph of a portrait of John Bartram, undated.

Meadowbrook Farm: Correspondence, notes and radio transcript of J. Liddon Pennock, Jr., 1949, 1964, 1983, 1993.

Meadowbrook Farm: Pennsylvania Horticultural Society's acquisition of the Philadelphia Flower Show, Incorporated, 1996.

Staff: Letter from R. Robinson Scott to his future wife, Mary Wilson, [1855].

Staff: John C. Wister, 1927-1952.

Staff: John C. Wister, 1927-1952.

Special Formats

Unpublished history of PHS: John Boyd memorial and history of PHS, 1927-1946.

Unpublished history of PHS: "Some Early American Flower Shows," by John B. Carson, 1953.

Unpublished history of PHS: "A Brief History", undated.

Unpublished history of PHS: Highlights of the Pennsylvania Horticultural Society, excerpts from minutes and contemporary records, circa 1895, undated.

Special Formats.

Art and artifacts: Patent of invention to excel the growth of plants and animals, 1872.

Art and artifacts: Envelope addressed to J. Liddon Pennock with horticulture stamp and L.H. Baily on envelope, 1958.

Art and artifacts: Correspondence from Reginald Farrer to Mayor Garnett Botfield and Mrs. Garnett Botfield, undated.

Copper printing blocks: PHS special award plate #9595, undated.

Copper printing blocks: Various PHS president and medals, undated.

Photographs: The Society of Little Gardens and Philadelphia Contributorship, 1930s.

Photographs: The Society of Little Gardens and various business gardens, 1930s.

Photographs: The Society of Little Gardens and The Free Library of Philadelphia, 1930s.

Photographs: The Society of Little Gardens and churches in Philadelphia, 1930s.

Photographs: The Society of Little Gardens and Western Savings Fund, 1930s.

Special Formats

Photographs: The Society of Little Gardens and Philadelphia parks and gardens, 1930s.

Photographs: The Society of Little Gardens and Rittenhouse Square, 1930s.

Photographs: The Society of Little Gardens and Philadelphia home gardens, 1930s.

Photographs: The Society of Little Gardens and 2025 Delancey Place, Philadelphia, PA, 1930s.

Photographs: Local gardens by Ida W. Pritchett, 1933, undated.

Photographs: PHS activities, 1963.

Photographs: Miscellaneous photographs, 1970s.

Photographs: Unidentified photographs by Ida W. Pritchett, undated.

Photographs: Still life, close-up and color photographs by Ida W. Pritchett, undated.

Photographs: 1858 competition schedule, undated.

Transparency of Pennsylvania Horticultural Society logo, undated.